

ABSTRACT

A local communication system in which a modem in a portable computer communicates wirelessly with the base station in a conventional portable telephone which is attached to a telephone land line. The computer may attach to the handset of a portable telephone via a jumper cable connection that is provided in the handset. Alternatively, the computer modem uses a wireless transceiver to communicate with a matching transceiver in the portable telephone base station. In another alternative configuration, the modem in the computer has an integral modem/transceiver that is used to directly communicate with the portable telephone base station. In addition to portable computers, the phone interface can be used by any communications device to communicate with a portable telephone. Alternative land lines such as coaxial cable networks or fiber-optic networks can be used in place of conventional telephone land lines.